



UFABC

GUIDEBOOK FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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LIFE AT UFABC

THE UNIVERSITY

You can find information about the university and the offices at the website ufabc.edu.br, though it's mostly in Portuguese.

Both campuses are still under construction, so students will witness a lot of change around here.

Make sure you enjoy the extra classroom activities and opportunities to interact with our students. There are several student-run organizations at the university, like DCE, the students' representative council; AXIS, the athletic department; UFABC Cheer, the cheering squad; the Aero and Rocket design teams; the chess club; IEEE UFACB; the Finance League; *Infanteria*, our marching band; these and many others can be found on the ground floor of *Bloco A* in Santo André.

The university offers a free shuttle service between campuses. The service runs on weekdays and Saturdays, during term time. During vacation time, it runs on a special schedule. A fleet of 5 buses operate 3 different routes: Campus Santo André to *Estação Santo André* ("Linha 01"); Campus Santo André to Campus São Bernardo ("Linhas 2, 3, 4"); Campus São Bernardo to *Terminal São Bernardo* ("Linha 05"). The timetables are under "**Transporte**" on the main page of the website.

Here's a brief explanation of how things are structured around here:

PROGRAD – The Provost Office for Undergraduate Education

This office handles all academic affairs concerning undergraduate students. Student services such as requesting official academic transcripts can be done at *Secretaria Acadêmica*. They are in charge with the release of the term schedule and the management of the enrollment system.

They have a program called PEAT (*Programa de Ensino e Aprendizagem Tutorial*), which is an Academic Advising Program that pairs a student and a teacher so they can discuss the student's objectives and options. International students can also participate in it, and you can choose any professor in the university to help you.

As for paid internships, which international students are allowed to accept, the office is also responsible for checking the documents and signing the contract.

You can visit their page at the link "**Graduação**" on UFABC's main website.

PROPG – The Provost Office for Graduate Education

This office handles all academic affairs concerning graduate students, such as acceptance letter emission, registration and enrollment.

You can visit their page at the link "**Pós-graduação**" on UFABC's main website.

PROPES – The Provost Office for Research

This office heads all research activities in the university. Students can choose to participate in the Undergraduate Research Program (*Iniciação Científica*), all they have to do is get in touch with a professor whose line of research they're interested in.

You can visit their page at the link "**Pesquisa**" on UFABC's main website.

PROEX – The Provost Office for Outreach

This office is in charge of all the outreach initiatives the university has to offer to the greater public. They organize courses, events and all kinds of activities for students.

You can visit their page at the link "**Extensão**" on UFABC's main website.

PROAP – The Provost Office for Community Affairs and Affirmative Actions

This office is behind the social inclusion initiatives the university offers students, such as financial aid, psychological support, sports activities. International students are welcome to participate in all their initiatives.

You can visit their page at the link "**PROAP**" on UFABC's main website.

CECS (Center for Engineering, Modeling and Applied Social Sciences)

This faculty is responsible for the **Aerospace, Biomedical, Energy, Management, Environmental and Urban, Information, Instrumentation, Automation and Robotics** and **Materials** Engineering programs, as well as the **Economics, International Affairs, Public Policy** and **Territorial Planning** Bachelor's programs.

It is located in Tower 1 in *Bloco A* in Campus Santo André. Their website is cecs.ufabc.edu.br.

CMCC (Center for Mathematics, Computation and Cognition)

This faculty is responsible for the **Computer Science, Mathematics** and **Neuroscience** Bachelor's programs, as well as the **Mathematics** Teaching program.

It is located in Tower 2 in *Bloco A* in Campus Santo André. Their website is cmcc.ufabc.edu.br.

CCNH (Center for Natural and Human Sciences)

This faculty is responsible for the **Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Philosophy** and **Physics** Bachelor's programs, as well as the **Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Philosophy** and **Physics** Teaching programs.

It is located in Tower 3 in *Bloco A* in Campus Santo André. Their website is ccnh.ufabc.edu.br.

International Affairs Office

Our office is responsible for agreements with international universities, for the language courses and for helping international students settling in Brazil.

We are located on the ground floor in *Bloco A* in Campus Santo André. Our website is ri.ufabc.edu.br.

GETTING TO KNOW THE CAMPUSES

1. Santo André – *Bloco A, Bloco B, Bloco C*

The campus occupies a large area surrounded by four streets: *Avenida dos Estados*, *Rua Santa Adélia*, *Rua Abolição* and *Rua Oratório*, as shown in the map below. The easiest way to access the campus on foot is by coming in through *Rua Abolição*, where there is a pedestrian gate. There is also pedestrian access coming in from *Avenida dos Estados*, right next to a big supermarket. To access by vehicle, you must go to *Rua Oratório*.

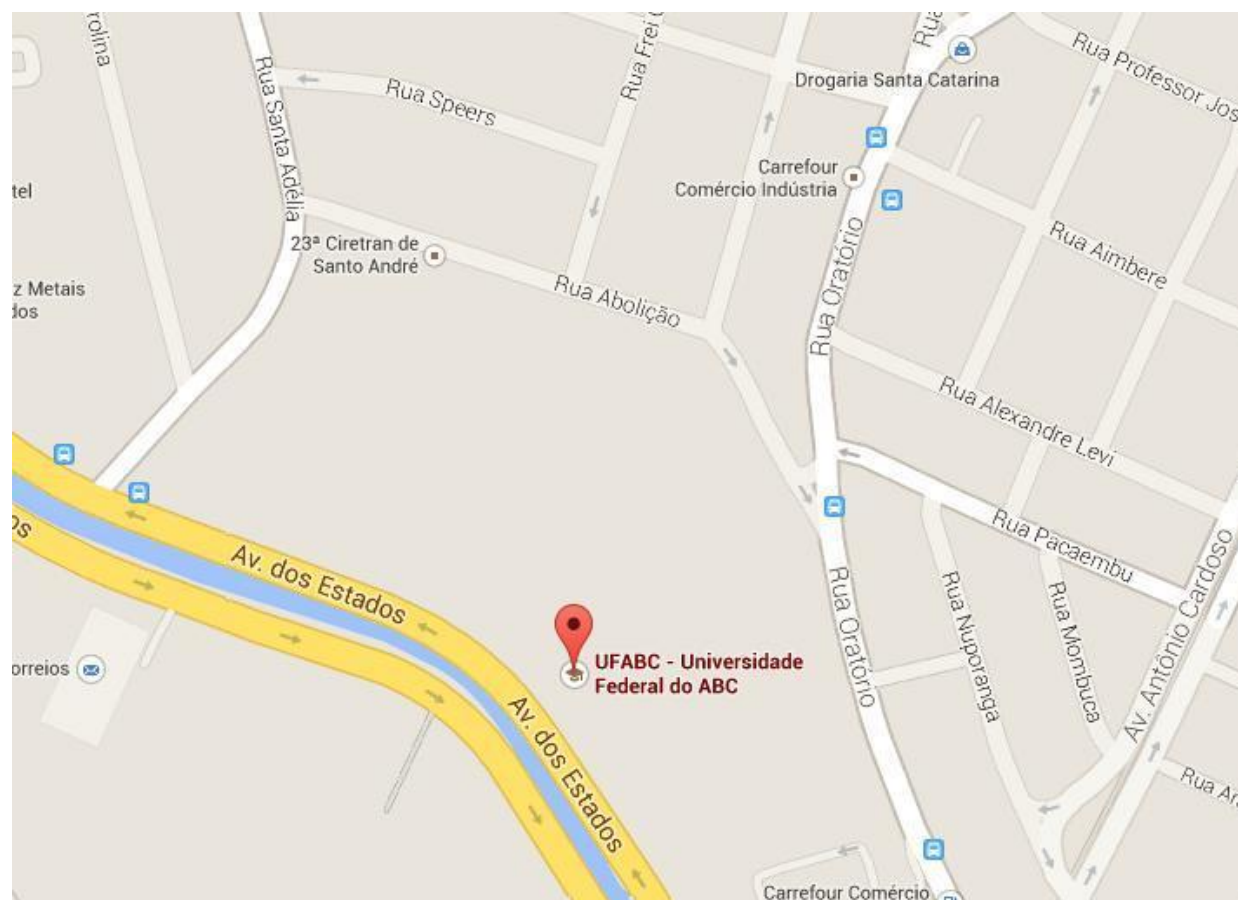
There are four buildings currently in use: *Bloco A*, *Bloco B*, *Bloco C* and the university restaurant.

Bloco A is where the majority of undergraduate courses take place. It houses the three faculty centers: CMCC, CCNH and CECS. Each center occupies one of the three towers. The professors' offices and classrooms are distributed accordingly. It is also where the infirmary, International Affairs, PROGRAD, PROEX and PROAP offices are located, all of them on the ground floor.

Bloco B is where the Graduate Office is located and where most of the graduate courses take place. There are also research laboratories on every floor, the CEM (*Central Experimental Multiusuário*) laboratory on the ground floor and professors' offices on the top three floors. The roof is used for sports activities.

Bloco C is where the library is located.

The restaurant is located in front of *Bloco A*.



(Map taken from Google ©)

2. São Bernardo do Campo – *Bloco Alpha, Bloco Alpha II, Bloco Beta, Bloco Gama, Bloco Delta*

The campus has two entrances: one in *Avenida São Paulo*, for vehicle and pedestrian access, and the other in *Rua Arcturus*, exclusive for pedestrian access. Public transport can take you as far as *Avenida Senador Vergueiro* and *Avenida Kennedy*, shown in the map below.

There are five buildings currently in use: *Bloco Alpha I*, *Bloco Alpha II*, *Bloco Beta*, *Bloco Gama* and *Bloco Delta*.

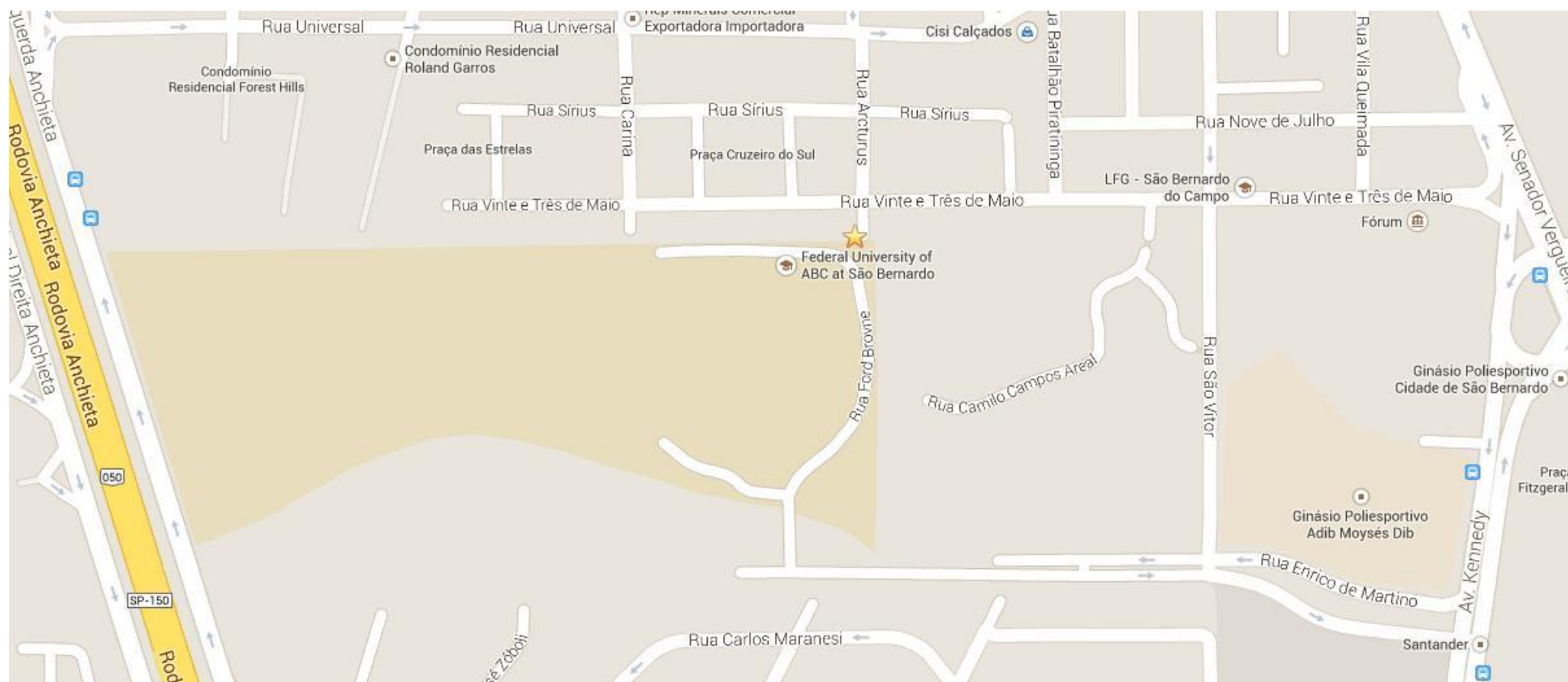
Bloco Alpha I houses classrooms and laboratories on the top floor. On the ground floor, you'll find the offices of PROGRAD and PROAP.

Bloco Alpha II houses classrooms.

Bloco Beta houses the auditorium on the ground floor, as well as the library and the infirmary, the former located on the first floor, the latter on the second.

Bloco Gama houses the university restaurant.

Bloco Delta houses professors' offices, research laboratories and a patio with chess tables.



(Map taken from Google ©)

CALENDAR

Our academic year starts in January and is divided into 3 terms, which are called "*quadrimestres*"; every year, they begin and end at a different date. In-between these periods, we have a few weeks of recess.

The calendar applies for both campuses and for undergraduate and graduate programs, though there are some particularities to each, such as enrollment period. You'll find the calendar at PROGRAD's and PROPG's website, under "*Calendário Acadêmico*".

STUDENT ID CARD

1. Campus Access

Campus Santo André is equipped with physical access control. To enter *Bloco A* or *Bloco B* you must present the ID card provided by the university. When you arrive on campus for the first time, you'll have to present a personal document in order to gain access. Make sure you have a copy of your acceptance letter when you get here.

If you're a graduate student, your ID card may take a while to get ready, so you'll be given a provisory card, which must be returned upon delivery of your actual card.

2. Library

The library in Campus Santo André is located in *Bloco C*. In Campus São Bernardo do Campo, it's located in *Bloco Beta*, on the 1st floor. You need a student ID card to borrow books. Students are allowed to borrow 5 books at a time, for 7 days. Unless a book has been recalled, you have a right to renew it 10 times. Books may only be renewed online. If you forget to do so, or if a book has been recalled and you don't return it, you'll be blocked from borrowing books for a period of time – 5 days for each book delayed, every day until the book is returned.

The library system can be accessed at <http://www.biblioteca.edu.br>. You can log in using your email credentials (*Login integrado UFABC*). To renew books, click "*Circ./Renovação*", check the desired books and click "*Renovar itens selecionados*". If it says "*Item renovado*", you can keep the book. If it doesn't, you have to return it.

3. RU – Restaurante Universitário

There are two restaurants, one on each campus. Students pay R\$ 3,91 for a meal and for that they have to present their ID cards.

You can find the week's menu on the website's main page, in the link "**Cardápio**", under "**Restaurante Universitário**".

LANGUAGE COURSES

We offer language courses for professors, staff and students; international students are welcome to participate in them. Calls for the courses are published on our website periodically and students who wish to get a certificate at the conclusion of the course must sign up, follow the instructions and abide by the rules described in the call.

When students fail to sign up for a course, if there are openings in a course, they can choose to participate as attending students, which means they won't get a certificate at the end of the course.

GETTING AROUND

1. Leaving the airport

a. Guarulhos International Airport (GRU)

Guarulhos is the largest airport in the state of São Paulo, and the busiest in Latin America, so most airlines operate there. It's your best option to get either to São Paulo, Santo André or São Bernardo by public transport.

There are two options if you want to leave the airport: the taxi service or public transport. The taxi service is operated by a co-operative called *Guarucoop*. They offer fixed rates that can be arranged at their desk, which is located right outside the international arrivals gate. From the airport to Santo André, for example, a taxi should cost you about R\$ 150,00.

As for public transport, you have two options: the Airport Bus Service lines, which cost R\$ 42,00, as it's an executive coach service. Three of them can take you to subway stations in São Paulo: **259 – República**, **472 – Barra Funda (via Tietê)** and **316 – Circuito dos hotéis**, the latter of which takes you to *Avenida Paulista*, where there are many subway stations. They may take one or two hours to arrive at the final stop.

The other option is an intercity bus that can also take you to a subway station: both lines **257 – São Paulo (Metrô Tatuapé)** and **299 – São Paulo (Metrô Tatuapé)** will cost you R\$ 5,15 and will take about an hour to reach *Tatuapé* subway station, depending on traffic conditions. (For more information on the transport system, check the second item).

b. Viracopos International Airport (VCP)

Viracopos is located in Campinas, a city that lies about 100 km to the northwest of São Paulo. It's a bit further away than Guarulhos, but it is possible to get to São Paulo, Santo André or São Bernardo by bus.

First, you have to go to the city's bus terminus ("*Terminal Multimodal Ramos de Azevedo*") by taking one of two buses: a city bus, **Line 193 – Rodoviária**, which operates from 6:00 am to midnight, and costs R\$ 3,00; or you can take the **Lirabus** executive coach, which operates from 6:00 am to 12:30 am, and costs R\$ 9,00.

Then, once you arrive at the bus terminus, you can get another coach to São Paulo, to *Terminal Rodoviário Tietê*. This will cost you about R\$ 25,00. It's possible to get a coach directly to Santo André (*Terminal Rodoviário de Santo André*) or to São Bernardo do Campo (*Terminal Rodoviário João Setti*) and these will cost you about R\$ 35,00.

All of these options should take you about 2 to 3 hours, depending on traffic conditions.

There are a lot of companies that provide transport from Campinas to these 3 cities, but we can specially recommend [Viação Cometa](#) and [Viação Santa Cruz](#). You can purchase your ticket from their website, but we recommend you purchase it at the terminus ticket booth before boarding. (For more information on the transport system, check the second item).

2. São Paulo, Santo André, São Bernardo do Campo

São Paulo, the state capital, is a huge metropolis, with lots to do and crazy traffic jams. Getting around can be a little complicated, as there are about 2500 bus lines connecting 67 subway stations from five different Metrô lines, 28 bus terminals and lots of train stations from six different railway lines. You can check out the transport system layout on this [map](#). The easiest way of finding out how to get where you want to go is by checking the map. Here's a brief outline:

Metrô **Line 1 – Blue** connects the north and the south; Metrô **Line 2 – Green** runs underneath busy *Avenida Paulista* and runs closest to Santo André and São Bernardo do Campo; Metrô **Line 3 – Red** runs west to east, and gets the closest possible to Guarulhos International Airport; Metrô **Line 4 – Yellow** goes downtown from the busy financial center in the southwest of town; Metrô **Line 5 – Lilac** is very small, running to the southwestern border of the city.

CPTM Lines 7 – Rubi, 8 – Diamante, 9 – Esmeralda, 11 – Coral and 12 – Safira are railway lines that connect the capital to different parts of the metropolitan area. CPTM **Line 10 – Turquesa** is the line that cuts through Santo André: it connects with Metrô **Line 2 – Green** on *Tamanduateí* station and *Santo André – Prefeito Celso Daniel* station is the closest to the Santo André campus.

EMTU **Corredor Metropolitano ABD** is a bus rapid transit system that connects Metrô Line 1 in São Paulo to *Santo André* station and *Terminal São Bernardo*.

You might need two travel cards to use the transport system: *Bilhete Único* and BOM. The former allows you to board buses in São Paulo, the subway, and the CPTM trains. In order to get one, you have to register with SPTrans, who manages the transport system in São Paulo. You can register as a student and pay half the fares. It also gives you a discount on trips that require transfers between buses and the subway or the trains for a period of up to 2 hours. One of the advantages is that you can purchase credits online and you don't have to stand in line to get tickets for the trains. You can sign up [here](#) (in Portuguese), just click "**Iniciar Cadastro**".

The latter only works on intercity buses, like the ones that connect Santo André, São Bernardo do Campo and São Paulo. You can register as a student and pay half the fares, but you don't get a discount on transfers. In this case, you have to register with EMTU, who manages transport between cities in Greater São Paulo. This card also works on CPTM stations and some subway stations. You can sign up [here](#) (in Portuguese). Note that you have to have your RNE number in order to register as a student.

Santo André is much smaller than both São Paulo and São Bernardo do Campo, and is a bit of a contradiction: it houses a great number of companies in the chemical industry and a large green area, with scattered city parks and protected areas. There's even a remote English village from the nineteenth century that hosts a winter festival. There are many shopping centers, one quite close to campus, a busy nightlife in *Rua das Figueiras*, an interactive science museum with planetarium called "*Sabina*".

São Bernardo do Campo is a pretty quiet town. The city bus terminus (*Terminal São Bernardo*) is about 10 minutes away from campus, the busy nightlife is in *Avenida Kennedy*, where there's also a shopping center and a gymnasium.

The weather here is very unpredictable: it can rain unexpectedly; it can get foggy in the nights, windy in the evenings and really hot during the day, even in winter. Temperatures here average 30°C in the summer, 19°C in winter and fall, 27°C in spring. The rainy season starts in the summer, and it usually rains in the afternoon.

3. Safety and Security

Though *Santo André* station is quite close to campus, we advise you don't walk that way by yourself, especially not after dark. Keep your electronic devices in your bag when you walk around the street, don't carry large quantities of money with you and always carry your personal documents.

Police emergency number: **190** (911 or 112 also redirects there, they have agents who can speak English and Spanish)

Emergency and urgent care service "SAMU": **192**

Fire Department (fires, life hazard, dangerous animals, critical emergency service) "*Bombeiros*": **193**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, YOU CAN CONTACT THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE AT incoming@ufabc.edu.br

<http://ri.ufabc.edu.br>